

CLAIMS

1. An improved element for forming ground covering, restraining and reinforcing structures, comprising a front wall (F), a lower wall (L) and an upper wall (U), characterised in that the front wall (F) is connected in an articulated manner at one of its end edges (3, 4) at least, to an edge of the lower wall (L) or the upper wall (U).
2. An improved element as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the front wall (F) is connected in an articulated manner at two of its opposite end edges (3, 4) to an edge of the lower wall (L) and an edge of the upper wall (U) respectively.
3. An improved element as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the upper wall (U) has a height substantially corresponding to or lower than the height of the front wall (F).
4. An improved element as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that it comprises bracket means (8) adapted to support, in use, the front wall (F) in an inclined configuration with respect to the lower wall (L).
5. An improved element as claimed in claim 4, characterised in that the bracket means comprise at least one triangular bracket (8) with a side secured in an articulated manner to the front wall (F).
6. An improved element as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a layer of geosynthetic material or bio-matting is secured to the front wall.
7. An improved element as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the front wall (F) comprises at

least one panel (2) of electrically welded wire netting, the lower (L) and upper (U) walls each comprising at least one panel (5, 6, 6a, 6b) of double-twist hexagonal-mesh wire netting.

8. An improved element as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the articulated connection of the front wall (F) to the lower wall (L) and/or the upper wall (U) is factory-made, the element being stowed and/or transported to the place of use in a flat configuration in which the front wall (F) is placed on the lower wall (L) and/or the upper wall (U).

9. An improved element as claimed in claim 8, characterised in that the front wall (F) is connected in an articulated manner to both the lower wall (L) and the upper wall (U), the element (1) being stowed and/or transported to the place of use in a flat configuration in which the front wall (F) and the upper wall (U) are both placed on the lower wall (L).

10. An improved element as claimed in claim 8, characterised in that the front wall (F) is connected in an articulated manner to both the lower wall (L) and the upper wall (U), the element (1) being stowed and/or transported to the place of use in a flat configuration in which the front wall (F), the upper wall (U) and the lower wall (L) are folded and placed at least partially on top of one another in a zigzag configuration.

11. An improved element as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the upper wall (U) comprises at least two panels (6a, 6b) connected in an articulated manner along a common edge (20) substantially parallel to the edges of the front wall (F).